IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-31. (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a coating on a powdered substrate, which method comprises introducing, by direct injection, at least one of an atomized liquid and solid coating forming material into at least one of an atmospheric plasma discharge and an ionised gas stream resulting therefrom, and separately transporting a powdered substrate to be coated into at least one of the atmospheric plasma discharge and the ionised gas stream resulting therefrom, and exposing the powdered substrate to the at least one of atomized liquid and solid coating forming material, wherein the powdered substrate is transported by being carried on a reel to reel web support comprising two layers of a non-woven fabric material between which, in use, the powdered substrate is sandwiched.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 32 wherein the powdered substrate to be coated is selected from at least one of metals, metal oxides, silica and silicates, carbon, polymeric powdered substrates, dyestuffs, fragrances, flavouring powdered substrates, pharmaceutical powdered substrates and biologically active powdered compounds.

36. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 32 wherein the atmospheric plasma discharge is generated between spaced apart parallel electrodes which are either flat electrodes or concentric electrodes.

37. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 36 wherein the spaced apart parallel electrodes are further defined as flat electrodes.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 36 wherein the spaced apart parallel electrodes are further defined as concentric parallel electrodes.

40. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 32 wherein the atmospheric plasma discharge is generated between a first and second pair of vertically or horizontally arrayed, parallel spaced-apart planar electrodes (21, 22, 23, 24) with at least one dielectric plate (27) between the first pair (21, 22), adjacent one electrode and at least one dielectric plate (27) between the second pair (23, 24) adjacent one electrode, the spacing between the dielectric plate (27) and the other dielectric plate or electrode of each of the first and second pairs of electrodes forming a first and second plasma region (25, 60).

41. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 40 wherein the electrodes (21, 22, 23, 24) are vertically arrayed.

42. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 40 wherein each electrode (21, 22, 23, 24) is in the form of a watertight box having a side formed by a dielectric plate (27) having bonded thereto on the interior of the box a planar electrode (26) together with a liquid inlet (28) adapted to spray water or an aqueous solution onto the face of the planar electrode (26).

43. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 41 wherein each electrode (21, 22, 23, 24) is in the form of a watertight box having a side formed by a dielectric plate (27) having bonded thereto on the interior of the box a planar electrode (26) together with a liquid inlet (28) adapted to spray water or an aqueous solution onto the face of the planar electrode (26).

44. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 35 wherein the atmospheric plasma discharge is generated between spaced apart parallel electrodes which are either flat electrodes or concentric electrodes.

45. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 44 wherein the spaced apart parallel electrodes are further defined as flat electrodes.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 44 wherein the spaced apart parallel electrodes are further defined as concentric parallel electrodes.

48. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 35 wherein the atmospheric plasma discharge is generated between a first and second pair of vertically or horizontally arrayed, parallel spaced-apart planar electrodes (21, 22, 23, 24) with at least one dielectric plate (27) between the first pair (21, 22), adjacent one electrode and at least one dielectric plate (27) between the second pair (23, 24) adjacent one electrode, the spacing between the dielectric plate (27) and the other dielectric plate or electrode of each of the first and second pairs of electrodes forming a first and second plasma region (25, 60).

49. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 48 wherein the electrodes (21, 22, 23, 24) are vertically arrayed.

50. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 48 wherein each electrode (21, 22, 23, 24) is in the form of a watertight box having a side formed by a dielectric plate (27) having bonded thereto on the interior of the box a planar electrode (26) together with a liquid inlet (28) adapted to spray water or an aqueous solution onto the face of the planar electrode (26).

51. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 49 wherein each electrode (21, 22, 23, 24) is in the form of a watertight box having a side formed by a dielectric plate (27) having bonded thereto on the interior of the box a planar electrode (26) together with a liquid inlet (28) adapted to spray water or an aqueous solution onto the face of the planar electrode (26).